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CONTENTS

BAHRAIN

- Editorial Criticizes Qabus' Remarks on Gulf Security
(Editorial; SADA AL-USBU', 12 May 81) 1

EGYPT

- Phenomenal Rise of Shaykh al-Sha'Rawi's Public Influence Traced
(Majdi Muhanna; ROSE AL-YUSUF, 13 Apr 80) 2
- Defecting Journalists Urged To Return to Egypt
('Abd-al-Sattar al-Tawilah; ROSE AL-YUSUF, 13 Apr 81) 8

IRAN

- Universities Should Be Reopened on Imam's Guidelines
(NAMEH-YE MARDOM, 16 Apr 81) 13

IRAQ

- Ba'th Statement Attacks Democratic Party of Kurdistan
(Voice of Iraqi Revolution, 13 May 81) 16
- Ba'th, French Socialist Party Representatives Meet
(INA, 16 May 81) 18
- Kurdish Radio on Iraqis, Others Taken Captive
(Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan, 11 May 81) 19
- Azeri Broadcast Comments on Recent Iranian Losses
(Baghdad International Service, 13 May 81) 20

ISRAEL

- Mayor of Jericho Discusses Occupation
('Abd-al-'Aziz al-Suwayti Interview; AL-RAY'Y AL-'AMM, 12 Apr 81) 22

JORDAN

Labor, Population Figures Cited (AL-QABAS, 18 Apr 81)	27
--	----

KUWAIT

Habib Mission Criticized (Editorial; AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM, 17 May 81)	28
Ambassador to Lebanon Says no Evacuation Planned (KUNA, 18 May 81)	30
'KUNA' Scores Iranian Policies, Seized Ship Incident (KUNA, 10 May 81)	31
Briefs Mitterrand Congratulated	32

MAURITANIA

Text of Kader Confession Describes Moroccan Support for Failed Coup (CHAAB, 21-24 Mar 81)	33
--	----

SULTANATE OF OMAN

Proposed Water Projects Discussed ('UMAN, 11 Apr 81)	37
---	----

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Oil Minister Interviewed on Oil, Foreign Policy (Maneh Sa'id al-'Udayba Interview; AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM, 21 Mar 81) ..	39
Minister Discusses Agricultural Strategy (AL-ITTIHAD, 2 May 81)	44
Protective Measures To Be Discussed for Trade Agencies (AL-BAYAN, 4 May 81)	45
Projects for Eastern Province Cited (Ahmad Majdub; AL-ITTIHAD, 2 May 81)	46

EDITORIAL CRITICIZES QABUS' MARKS ON GULF SECURITY

GF140933 Manama SADA AL-USBU' in Arabic 12 May 81 p 3

[Editorial: "We Do Not Want Tutelage, But..."]

[Text] There are a number of points that draw one's attention in the interview given by Sultan Qabus of Oman to the magazine AL-MUSTAQBAL. Some of these points are mined and one cannot predict the usefulness of pausing at them, while others are liable to explode at any moment. Perhaps the most important of these points is what Sultan Qabus said about Gulf security.

While Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad Ibn Mubarak al Khalifah--one of the leading decisionmakers of the region--says that the policy of the countries of the area stems from the principle of "leave us alone, we do not want any tutelage," we find that Sultan Qabus--who is a member of the Gulf Cooperation Council that will meet on 25 May--openly saying that he has no objection to calling foreign troops to his country to defend him under the pretext that his country falls within the Soviet pincers from the west, the east and the south, and therefore has no qualms over inviting NATO to establish a presence in the region so as to ward off the Soviet threat to the region and--to himself.

These conflicting stances by two of the region's decisionmakers on a specific issue--which perhaps is one of the most important issues facing the Gulf countries--does not inspire optimism or assurance in Gulf citizens.

The most serious aspect of this matter is not only the differences in view on a highly critical issue but that these conflicting stances on Gulf security could constitute one of the most important impediments to the collective political action the Gulf Cooperation Council is seeking. It could also be a factor in fragmenting the Gulf family links that have been established, nourished and consolidated throughout the past 2 years.

Where does the Gulf citizen stand in the face of all of what is happening and being said in the region? A war is taking place at a distance of 20 minutes from him, and as Sultan Qabus says, there are planes loaded with weapons of destruction awaiting orders to disgorge their load over innocent citizens of the region. The Arabian Sea is being transformed into an arena of conflict with an aircraft carrier, submarine or torpedo boat lurking behind every wave.

The Arab citizen continues to stand among the spectators. He sees and hears, he feels and is affected by what is happening, but he does not do or say anything--as though the matter does not concern him. And this is the main problem and the heart of the matter.

CSO: 4802/712

PHENOMENAL RISE OF SHAYKH AL-SHA'RAWI'S PUBLIC INFLUENCE TRACED

Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic 13 Apr 80 pp 6-9

[Article by Majdi Muhanna: "Phenomenon of Shaykh al-Sha'rawi; His Life, Studies, Poetry, Colleagues and Public Take Part in Interpreting This Phenomenon; Al-Sha'rawi Jailed for 30 Days; Secret Behind Protest Cable He Sent to King Sa'ud; You Cannot Send Me to Where God Does Not Exist"]

[Text] He has become the talk of people everywhere. Talk of the shaykh is heard in homes, in mosques and in the streets.

His voice has stormed the societies of youth, old men and women. Everybody you meet in government offices, in buses and even in boutiques asks you and talks to you about Shaykh Muhammad Mutawalli al-Sha'rawi. The shaykh has become a phenomenon in Islamic thought that merits a careful examination and study covering tens of pages.

In this report, ROSE AL-YUSUF will try, dear reader, to present to you the keys to the personality of His Eminence Imam Shaykh Muhammad Mutawalli al-Sha'rawi.

Questions seeking answers are raised among Shaykh al-Sha'rawi's listeners and adherents. When did the shaykh's eminence begin and did it emerge suddenly? Why did the shaykh agree to enter the cabinet and what are his impressions of this experience?

They also ask: How does the shaykh live his day and why hasn't he gotten a doctorate when he is such a venerable scholar? Is he truly an extension of Imam Muhammad 'Abduh's school of Islamic thought?

Private Card

The shaykh, may God give him a long life, was born in 1911 in the village of Daqadus, Mit Ghamr District, in al-Daqahliyah Governorate. He memorized the Koran in the village elementary school at the age of 11 and started reciting it at the age of 14.

He entered al-Zaqaziq elementary institute in 1926 and secondary institute in 1932 and graduated from the Arabic Language College of the venerable al-Azhar in 1941.

He taught at the Tanta Institute and then moved back and forth between the al-Zaqaziq and Alexandria institutes. He worked on loan in Saudi Arabia from 1951 to 1963.

He was appointed deputy director of the [Islamic] call in al-Gharbiyah Awqaf [Religious Trusts] Directorate and then occupied the post of director of the office of Shaykh Hasan Ma'mun, the ex-shaykh of al-Azhar.

He was named director of the al-Azhar mission to Algeria and was then loaned to Saudi Arabia for the second time in 1972 to work in King 'Abd-al-'Aziz University.

He was then appointed minister of awqaf and al-Azhar affairs in 1976 and served in this position until he left the cabinet in October 1978.

Since then, he has declined the political and executive positions to which he has been appointed and has devoted all of his time to the Islamic call.

Shaykh al-Sha'rawi's day begins when he wakes at 1000. He never sleeps before dawn because he stays awake throughout the night (communicating) with God. He sleeps an estimated 5-6 hours daily. He stays out of the house between noon prayers and evening prayers to meet friends and crowds of Muslims and to follow up on the activities of the call.

20 Piasters for Reward

Sami al-Sha'rawi remembers what he heard from his grandfather about the early life of his father, Shaykh Muhammad Mutawalli al-Sha'rawi. Sami has said:

Shaykh al-Sha'rawi began to savor poetry early in his childhood in the village. Whenever AL-AHRAM reported that a new poem by Ahmad Shawqi, the prince of poets, was to be recited on a certain occasion, al-Sha'rawi and his young colleagues would post themselves on the train station platform from 0500 of the morning following the report to wait for the press train and would not return to the village until the poem was memorized at the station platform.

The shaykh would then return to the village and "get from my grandfather a reward of 20 piasters for memorizing the poem." Perhaps this explains the secret behind the shaykh's quotation of Shawqi verses in many of his conversations and meetings.

Muhammad Fahmi 'Abd-al-Latif, a journalist, a lifelong friend and a school colleague of al-Sha'rawi takes us back to his memories of [the shaykh's] youth. He has said:

"We were a group of young men whose literary talents turned toward poetry at an early age. The group included Shaykh al-Sha'rawi, the late Muhammad al-'Azzazi, Tahir Abu Fasha, Hasan Jad, Kamil Abu al-'Aynayn and Muhammad al-Tayyib al-Najjar. We wrote our poems on national and religious holidays and occasions.

"The best among us in writing poetry were His Eminence Shaykh al-Sha'rawi and the late Muhammad al-'Azzazi.

"Al-Sha'rawi was characterized by his stamina and his strong oratorical voice. He was a neat dresser and interested in his social life. He was also very emotional and his eyes would tear in any touching situation. He was generous and would not eat his food unless joined by some of his brothers."

Al-Sha'rawi first emerged as a poet in one of the celebrations marking Prophet Muhammad's midnight journey to the seven heavens. In that celebration, al-Sha'rawi delivered a long poem in which he addressed the heart and the mind. Some of his colleagues and friends later published to poem. The poem says in part:

O midnight of the journey to the seven heavens,
Come you august one, enchantress of poets;

Your are the secret of the nucleus of the entire world,
And with what God has given you, you are beautiful.

His poetry also includes what he wrote about Quraysh's opposition to the call of the Prophet, may God's prayers and peace be upon him, which says in part:

They feared any trade that would totally demolish their al-Lat and
al-'Uzza [two pre-Islamic Arab gods].

Tahir Abu Fasha, a poet and school colleague of Shaykh al-Sha'rawi, has said:

"Al-Sha'rawi, who was my colleague at al-Zaqaziq Secondary Institute, was a neat and clean dresser. His turban was small in size and brilliantly white. He was gentle, witty and always in good spirits."

Thirty Days in Jail

The shaykh was imprisoned and spent 30 days in jail.

Student Muhammad Mutawalli al-Sha'rawi was one of the al-Azhar student leaders who led the movement known at the time as the Shaykh al-Maraghi movement.

The movement sought to oust Shaykh al-Zawahiri as the shaykh of al-Azhar because of his support for Sidqi Pasha's cabinet. The movement also sought to bring in Shaykh al-Maraghi as the shaykh of al-Azhar against the royal will at the time.

With the intensifying movement in al-Azhar, the government men pounced severely on the movement leaders, including al-Sha'rawi and Fahmi 'Abd-al-Latif, who were imprisoned in solitary confinement on charges of slandering the person of the king because they had published in the press a statement attacking the king's position vis-a-vis al-Azhar.

The shaykh entered the jail and served his term and then emerged to continue the campaign with his colleagues until al-Zawahiri was ousted and al-Maraghi took over as shaykh of al-Azhar in response to the national will.

As a poet, al-Sha'rawi wrote a book of verses on the Palestine war. In his early youth, he wrote about the martyrs of the national movement, those youths who died

so that their nation might live, who were buried so that their banner might soar and who offered their lives in struggle and fighting as a sacrifice for freedom and as a dowry for independence.

Question Marks

The shaykh being candid.

[Question] Your eminence, why didn't you get your PhD?

[Answer] After graduating from the Arabic Language College in 1941, the higher studies for this discipline were canceled. I went to Shaykh al-Maraghi, who was the shaykh of al-Azhar at the time, and asked him to reopen the discipline's higher studies section. The shaykh told me that the section had not served its purpose and that it had been decided, therefore, to cancel it. So, I did not get the PhD and worked as a teacher.

Fifteen years after my graduation, they [at al-Azhar] asked me to submit my thesis for my PhD. I rejected the offer and preferred to be a scholar without having a doctorate.

This is not surprising, considering that the first man to award a PhD did not have a PhD himself.

[Question] Your eminence, you entered the cabinet and got out of it. What is your view of the experience?

[Answer] Who knows if I had not had the experience, perhaps I would be wanting it now. However, and God be thanked, I wish that that experience had not entered my life.

[Question] Has the (scholarly eminence) of al-Sha'rawi emerged suddenly?

[Answer] No, this is not true. However, the fact is that I was abroad for a long time. Moreover, I avoided the media because I was content with my audience of students seeking to learn and with my dear ones whom I believed to be enough to disperse, each in his own environment, my views and opinions. Moreover, I had nothing new to give the people and I want the scholarly advocacy [of Islam] to add and not to repeat.

On this point, Fahmi 'Abd-al-Latif has added that Shaykh al-Sha'rawi has been eminent among his colleagues throughout the various phases of his life, but within the environment in which he lived during his studies at the institute and during his service as teacher in Tanta, Saudi Arabia and Algeria. But what has made him widely known among the people is his appearance in the "Light Upon Light"

[television] program. He has never sought fame and had he not been invited by someone else, he would have never sought this fame.

Shaykh and Method

There are various opinions regarding the method of Shaykh al-Sha'rawi in the Islamic call. But all the opinions agree that this method is derived from the venerable Koran.

Yahya Abu Bakr: Shaykh al-Sha'rawi's intellectual and philosophical method clearly conforms to the Koran. He purposely teaches by this method so that it may become a means for linking faith and application within the social framework.

Shaykh 'Ali al-Bahnawi, general director of al-Jizah District of al-Azhar: Al-Sha'rawi is a Sufist. His soul is pure and he is devoted in his love of God and obedience to God.

Dr 'Abd-al-Fattah al-Fawi, philosophy instructor at Dar al-'Ulum College: The secret behind the shaykh's captivation of the people's hearts is his use of the principle used by the venerable Koran to bring th facts closer to the people, namely, the principle of citing examples.

Shaykh al-Sha'rawi is not, in Dr al-Fawi's opinion, a textualist [nassi] who sticks rigidly to the text and who fails to resort to reason and is not a Sufist who ladles out from a secret source of divination but a man who respects the text [of the Koran and Hadith] and uses reason and a man in whom you see the trace of inspiration and (revelation).

Dr 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Najjar, director of mosques at the Ministry of Awqaf: Shaykh al-Sha'rawi has a special flair for understanding the Arabic language and the venerable Koran and he finds perspectives and meanings that do not occur to other interpreters.

Fahmi 'Abd-al-Latif: The shaykh teaches what the Koran says in light of scientific developments. His style might be considered an extension of the style of Imam Muhammad 'Abduh.

Shaykh Mutawalli al-Sha'rawi: The assumption that there is similarity between me and Imam Muhammad 'Abduh is an incorrect assumption. I have differed with him on many positions and issues.

The shaykh's method and creed can be summed up in a plaque that was placed on his desk when he was deputy director of the call in al-Gharbiyah Governorate. The plaque read: "God creates what He wishes and chooses the best."

Stands

In the shaykh's life, there are stands of which he is proud.

While the shaykh was working in Saudi Arabia on loan in the 1950's, King Sa'ud wanted to move the Tomb of Ibrahim from its present place so as to enlarge the viewing around the Ka'bah, so he built a new tomb and set a date to move the stone there.

All the ulema in Saudi Arabia met this with silence but Shaykh al-Sha'rawi insisted on expressing his opinion and on protesting the plan and sent a cable to King Sa'ud explaining to the king his position on this action.

The king agreed with his viewpoint, demolished the new tomb and left the old one in its place. Nobody is aware of this position except those who were contemporaries

of al-Sha'rawi, including Shaykh Muhammad Ahmad 'Ali, the shaykh of al-Azhar Institute in Tanta; Shaykh Muhammad Abu Talib Shahin; and Shaykh Ibrahim 'Atiyah, professor at the Islamic University in Medina.

Here is another stand of which the shaykh is proud:

In 1954, it was decided to transfer him to a remote area for no clear reason. The shaykh's reply to the deputy director of al-Azhar at the time was: You cannot send me to where God does not exist.

One of his proverbial statements of which those who love him are proud is: "Because I have tasted such sweetness in the Koran, I want to convey this sweetness to the people."

Now, how do we interpret the phenomenon of Shaykh al-Sha'rawi?

Perhaps Shaykh al-Sha'rawi is, as Dr 'Abd-al-Fattah al-Fawi says, one of those scholars who renew the youth of the Islamic nation every 100 years. The shaykh has succeeded in gathering the Muslims, with their various classes and cultures, around him with his great erudition, his good behavior, his simple style and his profundity, which is free of ambiguity.

Perhaps he has been able, as Dr Yahya Abu Bakr has said, to employ the means of communication, especially radio, television and cassette tapes, to perform the role of direct communication in the [Islamic] call. His performance in information and in the call is a "phenomenon" that merits study and analysis.

But it is certain that he is a man who loves God and who has put his love in the hearts of people.

This is Shaykh Muhammad Mutawalli al-Sha'rawi.

8494

CSO: 4802/662

DEFECTING JOURNALISTS URGED TO RETURN TO EGYPT

Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic 13 Apr 81 pp 20-21

[Article by 'Abd-al-Sattar al-Tawilah: "President's Appeal to Rejectionist Journalists: Come to Word of Truth; You Cannot Criticize Totalitarian Regimes That Finance You; The Only Freedom You Have Is To Attack Egypt's Policy; Easy Struggle of Hotels and Glass Cafes"]

[Text] Whoever joins the Union of Journalists by 15 May is safe.

We support with strong enthusiasm this appeal from the president of the republic and with ever greater enthusiasm we urge our brother journalists everywhere to respond to the appeal and to return to the homeland.

As for those who in recent years have taken the position of rejecting the Egyptian leadership's policy, we do not object to their right to criticize what they view as wrong. It is the right of any citizen to criticize and oppose. Our disagreement with them however, has centered and continues to center on two fundamental issues:

The first, and most important, issue is: From where does the criticism emanate? Is it from the homeland or from abroad?

The second issue is the style of opposition, regardless of our basic disagreement with them on most of the points and issues on which they base their rejectionist position.

We will debate these colleagues with utter frankness.

What Guarantee?

The first argument they cite for their failure to respond to the president's appeal is that they have no guarantee of being able to express their views, considering that, as they see it, opportunities for expression are unavailable.

We tell them: You know the simple political axiom that democracy is action, that freedom is grasped and its spheres expanded through application and that there is usually no place in the world where democracy or political freedom is offered on a gold platter.

It is obvious that many points of disagreement with or objection to the policy of the national regime in Egypt are expressed, even points concerning what only 10 years ago was called "supreme policy," a hallowed sanctity under the canopy of the previous totalitarian regime.

We are not saying that things couldn't be better, because this is a claim we dare not make. But we do tell you: Cling with us to the statement the president made in his meeting with the journalist when he said that "the responsibility of all of us, regardless of how different our opinions, how varied our views and how numerous our parties, is to agree to protect the path of democracy from any aggression."

Besides, can you really express your views freely in the papers and broadcasting stations of the rejectionist states in which you work?

We know and you know that you cannot.

Can any of you defend the freedom of expression that exists in the country which finances the paper for which you work or the country in which you live?

Can any of you criticize the rule of iron, fire, massacres and physical liquidations in the totalitarian countries on which you rely in your assault on the policy of the Egyptian regime?

Can any of you criticize the forgers, the robbers of the monuments of socialism and the persecutors of socialists in these countries?

Can any of you criticize the war that Iraq has launched against the Iranian revolution and Iraq's use of racist and pre-Islamic slogans, such as the Persians, the Mazdaists and so forth?

What is more, can any of you criticize any of the rules of these countries at a cafe meeting or in a session with friends?

The only freedom of expression you have is the freedom to attack the Egyptian political leadership.

Isolation From Reality

Another axiom is related to the political axiom we have mentioned, namely: Where does a man struggle for the ideas in which he believes? The simple answer is: On the soil of the homeland where the roots of struggle and of the strugglers strike deep into the national soil and where the strugglers are in contact with the reality and feel the pulse and reaction of the masses.

You will tell us that there are in every part of the world strugglers from other countries. This is true, but these political refugees are from countries where any opponent is sentenced to death or at least to a life term at hard labor.

Moreover, some of the countries in whose bosom and on whose money you live pursue their opponents to the death and kill them where they have taken refuge.

Thank God we are in Egypt--in a country where partisan opposition, criticism and objection are exercised and where people debate the president of the republic in open meetings carried live on the air.

This means that the possibility of struggle through criticism and opposition is present. All are supposed to struggle to expand these possibilities through the written word and by supporting partisan activity in all of its legal forms.

As for the easy struggle waged through the broadcasting stations, papers, publications and magazines and in relaxed cafe sessions, this is a luxury that true strugglers do not know. It is called--as the late Nkrumah, the former leader of Ghana, put it--the struggle of hotels.

Politics is the art of the possible. Gaining a single step on the right path and in real life is a thousand times better than shouting for a whole hundred years from the cafes of the Champs Elysees and of the Latin Quarter in Paris.

Writers and journalists whose feet are firmly planted on the good soil of Egypt feel confident, proud and hopeful for their country and their people even when a faulty situation in some facility is corrected, not to mention a basic political position.

When the struggler follows a certain course, he sees himself as an example for others and urges others to follow that course.

Are you urging Egyptians to flee their country when they disagree with their government on some matter?

Your position is undoubtedly defeatist and we know that capitulation to this escapist mentality acknowledges your fear and defeatism.

I do not think that you agree with this because if you did, you would have no right to assume the position of guiding the Egyptian people. No scared or defeatist man can lead people.

We now come to another argument that some of you have reiterated in our lengthy discussions in London and Paris. You present yourselves as a reserve defending Egypt's democracy from outside the walls.

We wish to say that defending democracy fundamentally takes place within a country.

Defending democracy from abroad is secondary and does not cause any considerable change in the internal situation.

However, we are in the age of rapid communication through all the rapid information media and we see the world democratic movement gaining strength, spreading, striking deeper roots and moving to defend the persecuted at all times and without delay. This was the case in 'Abd-el-Nasir's era when no rejectionist front was formed outside Egypt.

Permit us to say that this argument is simply a justification for you to relax and soothe your conscience, which is pricking you because you have forsaken the causes of your country and people and have abandoned yourself to rest, quiet and paradise.

But what paradise is it that you are enjoying in this voluntary exile that you have chosen for yourselves?

You live in apprehension and doubt, you suffer from your isolation from your people and colleagues and you experience the ailments of this isolation in which words become exaggerated and gain unreal dimensions and meanings, in which wishes become confused with reality, in which wishes even overwhelm and efface reality, in which souls perhaps rust and turn tense, tension replaces reason and the ego grows and gets so inflated that each of you becomes virtually a slave of the philosophy of "me and me alone."

Nothing is more indicative of this situation than the divisions, factions and groups that divide you in the worst way, thus permitting the countries embracing you to tamper with and manipulate the destiny of the Arab people and of the Palestinian people in particular.

Your own ideas are becoming confused and mixed because they are being formed according to [the will of] the country on whose money you live and with whose ink you write.

Some of you approve the existence of the state of Israel but are forced to compel yourselves not to say so.

Some of you chase the mirage of destroying Israel, others see the peaceful solution as a path and a third group wants a constant and endless war.

What is more, in all of this you are abandoning the cause of freedom that you claim to be defending because "those employing you" violate this freedom every day and you are compelled to remain silent.

Provocation itself

What then?

We now come to your style of criticism and opposition.

This style is itself a provocation, and it obscures every real issue.

It is the style of the hasty, short-sighted and impatient bourgeoisie.

You thus pour oil on the fire, provoke the regime and give the foes of democracy the opportunity to destroy it.

What is more, you stab every honorable writer in the back and in the chest every day and thus give birth to the broadest possible front of Egyptian writers opposed

you. Any Egyptian writer who receives wages for what he writes from his country is certainly not an agent of a foreigner; he collects from his country's free money.

But where do you collect from? I will say no more. Despite your constant arrows in our chests and despite the ridiculous and cheap accusations you make that we are agents, we have not and will not return your arrows. Moreover, what you write and broadcast has its reverberations only in the halls and the cafes in which you write or chatter.

We have criticized our country's officials for paying attention to what you write and broadcast.

You were supposed to learn a grave lesson from the failure of the 23 JULY magazine, but you have not.

You were also supposed to learn a lesson from Iraq's attack on Iran after having turned its back on the Palestinian issue.

Egypt Calls You

You were supposed to learn a lot from the criticism that the Egyptian press, both partisan and national, publishes regarding Egyptian policy and reality. Your place is here on the soil of this reality. This good land calls you to implant your hands and your feet in its pure soil to give rise to a green plant, to straighten a crooked stem or at least to say a poet's word on the path of reform and progress.

We await you, colleagues, to put your hands in ours and in the hands of all the Egyptians so that we may carry out what Anwar el-Sadat urged in his address to the journalists, namely: "The responsibility of all of us, regardless of how different our opinions, how varied our views or how numerous our parties, is to agree to protect the path of democracy from any aggression."

Come, then, to the word of truth and let bygones be bygones. Whoever joins the Union of Journalists is safe. The union is on Tharwat 'Abd-al-Khalik Street in Cairo, capital of the beloved Egypt.

8694

CSO: 4802/662

UNIVERSITIES SHOULD BE REOPENED ON IMAN'S GUIDELINES

Tehran NAMAH-YE MARDOM in Persian 16 Apr 81 pp 1, 2

[Text] The only way to insure an environment of calm in the universities is, in our view, to relegate the duty of the preservation of the security of the universities to the student groups who, irrespective of their ideological stances, are devoted to the revolution.

The higher education system which tugs along a heavy load of neocolonialist culture and is affected by the negative phenomena of imperialist culture, needs a radical change which is undoubtedly warranted by the Iranian revolution and is part and parcel of the cultural revolution which has to sweep the entire cultural life of our revolutionary country and, inter alia, adapt the higher education system to the new revolutionary values.

However, the necessity of fundamental changes in the higher education system does not at all mean that the universities should remain closed for a long time because the continued closure of the universities would keep the time and energy of more than half a million student and university staff idle and would hamper the training of the specialized people badly needed by our country. Moreover, it would give cause to the antirevolutionaries to make unfounded and malicious propaganda.

Concerned about the detriments of the prolongation of the closure of universities, Imam Khomeyni, the leader and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, emphatically told the members of the Cultural Revolution Staff on 23 Farvardin 1360 [12 April 1981]:

"Mobilize all your resources for re-opening the universities."

Formerly, too, Imam Khomeyni, emphasized, in his Nowruz [New Year] message, the necessity of reopening the universities in order to drive home to the officials the imperativeness of expediting the solution of this important problem which involves the future of hundreds of thousands of students and university workers.

The protraction of the closure of the universities stems from the fact that some of the authorities believe that before the universities can be reopened the higher educational curriculae, the criteria for selecting students, the manner of appointment of professors, the method of assigning educational branches and courses, etc., etc., should be overhauled first and new curriculae, criteria and regulations should be established in the higher education system. But Imam Khomeyni emphasizes

on the priorities of the courses which are currently needed by the society and says, "After the reopening, necessary reforms should be effected immediately."

Thus, as directed by Imam Khomeyni, we should not wait for all the necessary changes to be made in the higher educational system before the universities can be reopened. We should implement the plans devised in the ten months that the universities have been closed and the ones yet to be devised before the universities are reopened. Once the universities are reopened, then the non-basic changes and reforms can be introduced gradually.

Another important point which contained in the statement of Imam Khomeyni to the members of the Cultural Revolution Staff, was the prevention of the destructive activities of the antirevolutionaries in the universities. Imam Khomeyni says:

"Alongside the reconstruction, it must be ensured that the past doings are not repeated...and that the universities do not become hotbeds of conspiracies and activities against the revolution."

The infiltration of the antirevolutionaries into the universities and their evil objectives of creating unrest and chaos and instigating strikes and demonstrations in order to weaken the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran were and still are part of the subversive and antirevolutionary activities of the enemies of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Before the universities were closed, the antirevolutionaries tried to hamper the work of the universities. Now that the universities are closed, they try to foment malcontent among the idle students. The aim of both efforts is to turn away the students from the revolution. Not only the organized antirevolutionaries and Savak agents, but also the liberals and the small Maoist-American groups have assumed a major role in achieving this evil goal and are now working with full force in this direction. There is no doubt that when the universities are reopened, these groups which are given to destruction and anti-revolution propaganda, would resume their operations in full intensity. It is with this possibility in mind that Imam Khomeyni, reminds the people of Gorgan and Gonbad, who visited him, of the sensitive situation of the country and of the plots of the American imperialists for creating tensions and chaos and says:

"What matters to us is tranquility, everywhere."

In our opinion, the sole way of insuring the tranquility of the universities is to charge the student groups devoted to the revolution, irrespective of their ideological positions, with the responsibility of preserving the security of the universities. A congress of the representatives of the students of all the groups and organizations devoted to the revolution and loyal to the Islamic Republic of Iran can be convened prior to the reopening of the universities so that this great forum can exchange views, adopt measures, approve criteria and regulations, including those governing discipline and the election of the student councils representing various student groups, assuming the direct responsibility of preserving the security of the universities, and ensure the prevention of any kind of disorder in the universities.

Thus, the small antirevolutionary groups and the agents of the enemy will lose the initiative of creating an atmosphere of tension, and each trouble-making move on their part will be hurdled by a wall of resistance put up by the students devoted to the revolution. The members of these small groups shall be identified gradually, isolated and secluded.

Another important and noteworthy point in Imam Khomeyni's statements on 23 and 24 Farvardin 1360 [12 and 13 April 1981] is the line drawn between the revolutionaries and the antirevolutionaries. The line divides "friends" and "foes" of the revolution, not those believing in the Islamic theology and those not indoctrinated by Islamic ideology. Imam Khomeyni specifies:

"Expert professors who believe in the system of the Islamic Republic and wish to serve it may be employed."

Imam Khomeyni considers the existence of various ideologies a natural phenomenon and believes that expert professors, even if they are not Moslem, must be employed except in humanities. Imam Khomeyni says:

"As regards other branches, however, what is desired is that the professors tend to their work and that no plotting takes place. But their ideas could be different. It is only natural that ideas differ."

Imam Khomeyni adds:

"University professors should limit themselves, exclusively, to the obligations of professors regardless of whether or not their ideas differ from those of the others. They are well received and can serve in the universities and our brothers should not oppose them."

Imam Khomeyni's caveat is entered against those who, on the pretext of disbelief in Islamic teachings, have forced many of the specialists and professors devoted to the revolution and to the Islamic Republic to stay idle at home and have deprived the nation from the wealth of their knowledge and expertise.

Imam Khomeyni says clearly:

"With respect to the choice of professors, it suffices that they specialize in a field and follow the path that we desire."

Imam Khomeyni emphasizes those basic principles that must be the watchword of the Cultural Revolution Staff and other responsible authorities and those involved in higher education. These principles are: the reopening of the universities as soon as possible, the utilization of thinking and work power of expert professors devoted to the revolution and the necessity of preventing conspiracies.

Based on the unwavering guidelines put forth by Imam Khomeyni we should step forward to welcome the reopening of the universities which are imbued with the elevated spirit of revolution, which are bastions of preservation of the gains of the revolution, which are centers of education and training of cadres and specialists devoted to the revolution.

We should not lose sight of the fact that the cultural revolution and changing the system of higher education is a must. The other necessity is to foil conspiracies of imperialism led by the United States of America and the antirevolutionaries reared by it, and to push the nation forward towards the lofty borders of social progress.

BA'TH STATEMENT ATTACKS DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF KURDISTAN

JN141615 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Revolution in Surani Kurdish 1610 GMT 13 May 81

[Text] The following is a statement issued by the Iraqi Ba'th Party regional command:

On 22 March 1981 Saddam Husayn's fascist regime's fighter planes [words indistinct] against [word indistinct] sector. [Words indistinct] comprising groups of Ba'thist comrades and liberation army [words indistinct] in Iraq and the nationalist of [passage indistinct].

Other planes landed large numbers of special forces and mercenaries who cooperate with the dictatorial regime in Baghdad. They imposed on our revolutionary forces a [word indistinct] battle which lasted from 0900 in the morning to 2130 at night. Twelve of our fighters were wounded. [Words indistinct] the Democratic Party of Kurdistan (DPK) gangs in Iraq led by Mustafa Barzani. He captured 19 of our fighters and sent them to the prison of the first branch of the party protected by the Turkish intelligence.

Such conduct by the DPK is rejected by the forces of our parties and nationalist forces in Iraq. [Passage indistinct] most of the national and progressive forces in Iraq. It (?arrested) seven Iraqi Communist Party strugglers. It did the same [passage indistinct] against [word indistinct] and the bases of the Iraqi Communist Party [passage indistinct] this party [words indistinct] the Iraqi People's Liberation Army Organization [passage indistinct] in 1977. They were executed by Saddam's gang. The crimes this party committed in 1977 included the killing of 37 fighters of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan. The most famous of them are: Dr Khalid, 'Ali Askari and Husayn [word indistinct].

[Words indistinct] this war of piracy and killing against the Iraqi national and progressive forces cannot be considered patriotic or faithful to the homeland issue [word indistinct]. It is not strange that the DPK is isolated from the (?rights) of the homeland. The members of this party are agents and foreign intelligence elements. We mention some of the members of the central committee of this party and their connections [words indistinct] our people, DPK, Arab and international liberation movements and those who defend them against the crime [words indistinct]:

1. [Name indistinct], U.S. intelligence agent residing in the United States [words indistinct];

2. [Name indistinct] who was trained by the Israeli Mossad;
3. ('Ula Kaka Yi), trained in Israel by the Mossad;
4. [Name indistinct], U.S. intelligence spy [words indistinct];
5. Mas'ud Barzani, trained for 6 months by the Israeli Mossad. He paid a number of visits to Israel, the last at the beginning of 1979;
6. Idris Barzani, a shah agent who was trained in Israel;
7. (Jirjis Pathallah), member of the party's central Committee, Israeli-U.S. spy who was arrested in Lebanon for this reason;
8. (Azad Barwari), trained in Israel by the Mossad;
9. (Jirjis Hasan), trained in Israel by the Mossad; and
10. Ghazi Zibari, trained in Israel by the Mossad. [Words indistinct] in Iraq.

Collusion with Saddam Husayn's regime by the gangs of the DPK (?contradict) the struggle of the Iraqi national movement and leadership of the democratic national and patriotic front waged to destroy the agent fascist regime in order to establish democracy in Iraq and autonomy in Kurdistan.

Glory to the martyrs of our party, people and nation. Long live the democratic national and patriotic front and immortality to our mission.

[Signed] Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, (?command) of the Iraqi front.

Mid-April 1981.

CSO: 4905/4

BA'TH, FRENCH SOCIALIST PARTY REPRESENTATIVES MEET

JN161249 Baghdad INA in English 1200 GMT 16 May 81

[Text] Paris, 16 May (INA)--Representatives from the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party (ABSP) organization in France and the French Socialist Party (PS) met here last night and exchanged views on several Arab, Third World and international issues of common concern.

Points of view on some national and other common issues were identical.

The ABSP representatives at the start of the meeting congratulated the Socialist Party for the election of its leader, Mr Francois Mitterrand for presidency and explained the dimensions of the Arab-Zionist conflict and the aggressive nature of the zionist entity being an important base for American imperialism in the region.

The ABSP representatives also explained all aspects of the Iraq-Iran conflict and Iraq's point of view regarding the full rights of sovereignty over its territories and waters.

They talked about the Persian regime's aggressive nature towards Iraq and the Arab nation stressing Iraq's continued efforts to find a solution that guarantees its historical legitimate rights.

Iraq's positive response to the efforts of peace made by the non-aligned, Islamic conference organization and the United Nations was also explained.

The two sides agreed on the continuation of exchange of views and the importance of developing relations between the ABSP and PS as well as between Iraq and France.

The French PS representatives were Ms Veronique Neiertz in charge of the foreign relations bureau and two members from the international relations committee.

CSO: 4820/346

KURDISH RADIO ON IRAQIS, OTHERS TAKEN CAPTIVE

JN121528 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Surani Kurdish 1535 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] Our party's political bureau had previously decided to release three Egyptian engineers. However, several others are still being held by our Peshmergas--four foreigners and two Iraqis. They were taken captive by our party's first branch Peshmergas on 18 and 29 December 1980. Following are their names and addresses:

1. Muhammad Qasim Muhammad Zuhayr (al-Bini), born in India in 1955, worker in the tourism central market in (Dinsk) in al-'Imadiyah District.
2. Jamal Ahmad Salih Hasan, born in Alexandria, Egypt, on 7 May 1942, worker in (Dinsk) market in al-'Imadiyah District.
3. Mahmud 'Abd ar-Ra'uf 'Abd al-'Azim, born in al-Bayda', Egypt, on 20 December 1950, agriculture inspector working temporarily for the Agriculture Ministry. He was captured in (Dayr Luk).
4. Sayyid Zaki Sayyid 'Amir, born in Banha Governorate in Egypt, assistant agricultural engineer working in the government's orchards in (Sarsank).
5. Rizgar Mahmud Agha Qadir, born in as-Sulaymaniyah in Iraq in 1955, assistant agricultural engineer at the state farm in (Dinsk) in al-'Imadiyah.
6. Hamid Karim 'Abd ar-Rida, born in al-Kazimiyah in Baghdad in 1955, tourist guide in (Dinsk) in al-'Imadiyah District.

CSO: 4905/4

AZERI BROADCAST COMMENTS ON RECENT IRANIAN LOSSES

GF150850 Baghdad International Service in Azeri 1900 GMT 13 May 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] What will Bani-Sadr have to say about the recent clashes in Sar-e Pol-e Zahab? He will undoubtedly have to admit that the Iranian army was defeated, since it lost 1,500 troops, 38 tanks and 5 aircraft. Will this great loss teach the Iranian rulers a lesson?

It has become obvious during the past 8 months that the Iranian army is no match for the Iraqi armed forces. However, the illiterate Iranian rulers--particularly Bani-Sadr--do not want to admit this. Instead, they insist on prolonging the war. One reason for this is to keep the army occupied with the war and to create favorably conditions for the clashing political factions to usurp power in the country.

It is a fact that the illiterate Iranian administrators attach no importance to the disasters brought upon Iran by the war. They are only concerned with their own interests and with their endeavor to dominate Iran. Thus, we see that the Iranian rulers--particularly Bani-Sadr--talk about prolonging the war. They also claim that they are scoring gains in the course of the fighting. This is wrong. They have scored no gains. Instead, they have been abandoning their positions on the battlefield. Their loss in the fighting in Sar-e Pol-e Zahab confirms what we have said. They have not even been able to move the Iraqi armed forces from their positions.

According to political (?circles), the result of the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab clashes will put Bani-Sadr in a difficult position and keep him silent before Beheshti and Raja'i, who are his enemies. Coupled with this, relations between Bani-Sadr and the Iranian army will deteriorate, because Bani-Sadr is responsible for the great loss the Iranian ground and air units suffered during these clashes.

Until now, Bani-Sadr held the illiterate rulers responsible for the defeats the Iranian army suffered. Now, however, since he is commander-in-chief of the army, he will not be able to hold anyone but himself responsible. He will have to shoulder the responsibility for the recent defeat all by himself.

The loss the Iranian army suffered at Sar-e Pol-e Zahab seems to have pleased Beheshti and Raja'i, who are the leaders of Iran's Islamic Republic Party.

Bani-Sadr's political enemies have described him as a weak and incapable president and commander-in-chief of the armed forces.

It should not be forgotten, however, that Bani-Sadr was threatening Iraq before all this. In fact, he even threatened that Iranian armed forces would occupy Baghdad. He missed no opportunity to claim that he would be victorious against Iraq. Months have passed, and the Iraqi armed forces have taught both Bani-Sadr and the illiterate and impostor Iranian rulers unforgettable lessons.

We now ask if the Iranian rulers will regard the loss the Iranian army suffered as a lesson? If they do not take this loss as a lesson they should be prepared to meet with more defeats.

CSO: 4901/12

MAYOR OF JERICHO DISCUSSES OCCUPATION

Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 12 Apr 81 p 19

[Report on Interview in Amman with Mr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Suwayti, Mayor of Jericho: "Mayor of Jericho Tells AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM, 'Israeli Occupation Increases Economic Pressures on Arabs To Weaken the Basic Factors of Resistance'"]

[Text] Mr 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Suwayti, the mayor of Jericho in the occupied West Bank said, "The occupation authorities are inclined to continue postponing the municipal elections on the occupied West Bank until further notice because they believe that the results of the elections will produce factors that are more extremist and more inflexible in their resistance to the occupation in most of the districts of the West Bank. [They think that those who will be elected] will reject the proposed capitulatory plans, chief among which is the Camp David formula and the so-called autonomy." However, Mr al-Suwayti did not find it unlikely that if the Labor party were to win in the Israeli elections, it would be inclined to hold municipal elections among the Arab population if it can guarantee that it can interfere with and influence those elections.

This statement was made in the course of an interview AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM had in Amman with Mr al-Suwayti.

He said, "The mayors in the West Bank held a meeting in which they considered the matter. They thought that it was necessary for them to continue in their positions and to bear their responsibilities so that committees chaired by Israeli officers would not be appointed. Such committees would add more tragedies and catastrophes to the people of our nation, and they would make them assume more burdens."

Mr al-Suwayti attributed to an Israeli writer the statement that, "What the current mayor achieved by their recognition of the PLO spared the organization no less than 50 years of efforts that would have been necessary to achieve such recognition. Their recognition also provided the organization with the suitable opportunities to address all the countries and nations of the world on behalf of all the Palestinian people."

Autonomy

Mr al-Suwayti affirmed that our people in the occupied homeland thwarted the autonomy plan because it ignored their right to determine their own destiny and establish their independent state on their land. The autonomy plan does in fact ignore the simplest of the Palestinian hopes. In this regard Mr al-Suwayti scoffed at Dayan's invitation to have a one-sided application of autonomy.

The United States and Israel

Concerning U.S. policy the mayor of Jericho said, "I do not think that this policy will change with the change in presidents because the U.S. policy is one that supports Israel and considers it the first American state, designated to serve the interests of the United States in the Middle East. [The Americans] are thereby forgetting Palestinian rights."

He added, "The U.S. policy is firm in its support for Israel with all capabilities. The U.S. policy will continue to be that supportive of Israel unless it is faced with a unified and a serious Arab position, defending these rights resolutely and forcing the United States to change its policy."

The Most Vicious Attack

Regarding conditions in the occupied regions at this time and in the latter period of the Likud government Mr al-Suwayti said, "Perhaps the most violent [ordeal] that our people are facing at this stage is the increase in economic pressures and burdens of living. These are manifested in the increase in the costly surtaxes which are burdening the citizens and causing the merchants to become bankrupt. In addition, the freedom of mayors is being restricted; their movement is being thwarted; and they are being prevented from obtaining funds from abroad. This is because in the opinion of the occupation authorities these funds have come to constitute a dependency on the Arab nation. The occupation authorities are striving to destroy the basic factors of steadfastness, and this leads the citizens to emigrate, and more Zionist settlers to settle [in their place]."

He said, "The occupied land is now undergoing an attack that is more violent than previous attacks. It is being carried out by the Israeli occupation authorities to confiscate more land and to settle it before the term of the Likud government expires and new elections are held at the end of next June."

Electoral Outmaneuvers

Mr al-Suwayti assured AL-RA'Y AL-'AHM that the set of pressures and terrorist operations and their escalation as well as the intensification of the vicious settler attack are part of the outmaneuvers and the elections fever to gain Jewish votes in preparation for the next elections campaign. In addition, all this coincides with the basic Zionist objectives that

are manifested in uprooting the original residents from their land and supplanting them with Zionist settlers.

Al-Suwayti said, "So far, the land that has been confiscated exceeds one third of the area of the West Bank. In addition to its strategic locations, it is the most fertile agricultural land."

Water Wells: Drying Up and Becoming Salty

Concerning agricultural conditions in the occupied areas the mayor of Jericho said, "Israeli authorities are preventing Arab farmers from drilling artesian wells to irrigate their crops. When one of the wells for drinking water in the area of al-'Awja, in the district of Jericho, dried up, the people of the region filed a petition with the military governor [for permission] to drill a new well for drinking water. But the military governor turned down their request. The only justification was that the Israeli authorities had drilled an irrigation well in that district for the settlements and the camps and that the district could not endure more than this capacity because these wells had been drilled very deep. This led the water table in this region to drop. In addition to not allowing the drilling of new wells there is an imminent danger that the water level in the currently existing wells will drop."

He added, "The fact that Israel has undertaken to drill these wells has increased the salinity of the water of the wells that are used by Arab residents. This has damaged the agriculture of Arab citizens."

He said, "Agricultural marketing has been forbidden to the residents of the occupied areas since 1967 so that Israeli products would have no competition. The Israeli farmer is equally subsidized by the Israeli authorities regarding the marketing of his products or the compensation he receives for the damages that his crops may suffer. These authorities offer no subsidies to Arab farmers."

Agricultural Marketing

Al-Suwayti added that Jordan is contributing by marketing quantities of the occupied areas' agricultural production. In this regard Mr al-Suwayti affirmed that the timing of the permits that are issued to market to and through Jordan plays a very important role because obtaining an export permit at the appropriate time is very important for the farmers."

He went on to say, "We are intent on preventing the infiltration of Israeli products into the Arab markets. There is an agricultural association in the city of Jericho that has 230 employees. Its function is to monitor agricultural products to prevent the possible [infiltration] of any agricultural products that could be coming from an Israeli source."

The Teachers' Strike

Concerning the teachers' strike on the occupied West Bank Mr al-Suwayti affirmed that there was no relationship between the teachers' strike on

the West Bank and the Israeli teachers' strike. Unlike the Arab teachers, the Israeli teachers have a union that calls for their rights. The Israeli minister of education also stands on their side and supports their demands. He had threatened to resign from the government if the Israeli minister of finance did not comply with their demands.

But the Arab teachers were on strike for more than 3 months. They called off their strike after the Israeli authorities promised them a 15 percent salary increase for the month of April and a 10 percent increase for the month of March.

The Jericho Malady

Concerning the health situation in Jericho the mayor of Jericho said, "Recently a disease called the Jericho pimple has become prevalent. It is the result of an insect bite which leaves a visible hole in the skin. A number of the city's residents have been afflicted with this disease. The municipality of Jericho in cooperation with the UN Relief Agency sprayed pesticides in the places where these insects are found to ward off their danger."

The Jericho Hospital

He added, "The public health situation in the city requires much work, especially in the area of hospitals. There is one hospital in the city which has only 20 beds. This is not enough for a district whose population exceeds 18,000 persons. Therefore, the municipality will build a new hospital with room for 100 beds. The Islamic Bank will finance this project whose costs are estimated at about 450,000 Jordanian pounds."

Concerning his current visit to Jordan he said that he had met with officials in the Ministry for Occupied Land Affairs and that 50,000 Jordanian pounds had been transferred to the account of the municipality in the Arab Bank in Amman.

The Sharjah Subsidy

Mr al-Suwayti added, "I will go to the Sharjah Emirate to meet His Highness al-Shaykh Sultan al-Qasimi, the ruler of the emirate. He had promised to transfer 120,000 pounds--the equivalent of 1.5 million dirhams--to complete the project of the Hisham ibn 'Abd-al-Malik secondary school in Jericho. We are grateful to His Highness for donating all the expenses for the construction of the school. These are estimated to be 238,000 pounds for a school that can accommodate 1,200 students."

He said, "Our intention was to have the project also become the nucleus for a college of agriculture affiliated with al-Najah University, but the occupation authorities rejected this."

Mr al-Suwayti indicated that His Highness al-Shaykh al-Qasimi was prepared to subsidize all the municipality's projects. He did actually contribute to

the implementation of the project to build a water storage tank, the city's water system and the main water distribution line. He also contributed to the project to pave and surface streets; to build sidewalks in the city; and to build the resthouse project which is located at the spring of 'Ayn al-Sultan.

It is noteworthy that the city of Jericho is the sister city of Sharjah in the context of the sister cities [program] among Arab cities.

At the end of the interview Mr al-Sumayti affirmed the importance of the continuation of the Arab sister city program with the cities of the occupied land and expanding the scope of that program until the cohesion with the municipalities of the occupied homeland is deepened and firmly established. In addition to the basic national and pan-Arab functions [of this program], it will bring about significant services in the interests of our people.

8592

CSO: 4802/709

LABOR, POPULATION FIGURES CITED

Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 18 April 81 p 19

[Excerpts] Jordanian circles concerned estimate the number of Jordanians working outside of Jordan at approximately one-quarter of a million, the majority of whom work in the Arab oil-producing states. Although those working abroad as recruits in the national economy have certain advantages, nevertheless, the Jordanian government says that some negative effects on the national economy result from the departure of those workers abroad, represented by a shortfall in the work force, especially in the construction and agricultural sectors. This necessitates bringing in foreign workers, whose number was estimated at about 70,000 in 1980. Most of them are unskilled or semi-skilled workers.

The Work Force

The work force on the East Bank in 1980 was estimated at about 450,000, most of them male. The woman's share of the work force was estimated at about 14 percent. Indicators provide evidence of a shift in sector distribution of the work force from agriculture to the industrial and services' sectors. Because of the natural increase in population, and a decrease in the woman's share of the work force, the economic composition of the human forces is characterized by a decrease to 20 percent in the average participation of the population in the work force, while the percentage of welfare support has risen. This has a negative effect.

The government today is making efforts to stop the drain of skills, at least in the governmental apparatus. Incentives to encourage officials to remain in their jobs are being established, because the country needs a skilled administration, capable of planning, implementing and overseeing, and of playing the basic role in economic and social life.

Population and Geographic Distribution

The annual increase in population between 1961 and 1979 was about 5 percent. It is expected that the population will rise from about 2.3 million in 1980 to about 2.7 million in 1985. Geographic distribution shows that concentration in Amman Province has increased to about 55 percent of the total population. All of this has resulted in generating increased pressures on available resources, such as water, energy, and educational and social services.

7005

CSO: 4802/697

HABIB MISSION CRITICIZED

LD201335 Kwaut AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 17 May 81 pp 1, 19

[Editorial: "Steadfastness and Victory"]

[Excerpts] The Americans believe that war will not occur as long as their envoy Habib is shuttling in the area. Nevertheless, the Americans continue to bring pressure to bear in order to obtain concessions from Syria without bothering to disturb Israel with a single demand. In the eyes of the United States Israel is always "right"--it has the right to swallow up Palestine and wipe out its people both inside the country and those dispersed, and the right to impose its control on all the Arab countries under the pretext that "Israeli security" requires this.

Now we can understand the type of peace they want to establish between the Arabs and Israel. It means that all the Arabs must be disarmed so that Israel will have security. We can also understand the truth about the peace treaty with as-Sadat's Egyptian regime and why Sinai is totally demilitarized apart from arms for the police.

If Sinai has been demilitarized this way it means that the Arabs in the north--in Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan and the Palestinians if any of them are left alive--will be disarmed right up to the Turkish borders and to the far ends of the Gulf. It is for this reason that Israel is objecting to the equipping of Saudi Arabia whether with AWACS aircraft, or advanced U.S. fighters, or German tanks. Israel does not want armed Arabs on the grounds that the guardian alone--in this case itself--carries arms.

Therefore, we can imagine the kind of settlement Israel envisages on the northern front, that is if indeed it wants a settlement other than that which comes after burying the dead.

Of course the United States, being Israel's full partner, is well aware of this fact. Therefore, despite wearing the mask of mediation it did not make a single demand on Israel. It has put all the demands to Syria: pull out your missiles from al-Biqa'; withdraw from Zahlah and the Sannin mountains; leave the Palestinians and the Lebanese nationalist movement at the mercy of Israel's air force so that it may kill them and wipe them out; accept humiliation at home and abroad and tell the world that the Arab rejection of the Camp David accord was no more than prattle.

The Syrian stand which won approval in international circles, even among those usually loyal to Israel, because it is a legitimate defensive stand, has secured obvious political advantages for the Arab rejection and has given it a greater weight and say in the matter of settlement plans which are being talked about.

This stand has confirmed the burial of the Camp David policy and has proved the undeniable fact that Camp David has been and still is the road to war and not to peace.

CSO: 4802/712

KUWAIT

AMBASSADOR TO LEBANON SAYS NO EVACUATION PLANNED

LD181502 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1240 GMT 18 May 81

[Excerpt] Beirut, 18 May (KUNA)--The Kuwaiti Embassy in Lebanon was today caught in a cross fire of missiles and artillery between the leftist Lebanese militia led by the phalangist party and members of the Syrian peacekeeping forces. But no casualties were reported among the embassy staff.

However, a man and a woman who had sought shelter in the embassy yard were killed when a shell hit them. It has not been possible to identify them yet.

The shells that fell on the embassy compound shattered glass panes, destroyed the embassy doors and broke the glass in the windows of the residence of Ambassador 'Abd al-Hamid al-Bu'yjan. Six embassy staff cars suffered serious damage. The cars were parked at the eastern wing of the building which contains the visa section. Two rooms in the ambassador's residence were also damaged. They were bedrooms for the ambassador's children but none of them were hurt since the ambassador had asked them early in the morning to sleep on the ground floor which contains the embassy offices.

The embassy is situated in the western part of Beirut which is under the control of the leftist Lebanese forces and the Arab deterrant forces.

Despite this, the ambassador insisted on continuing work as usual at the embassy. He told KUNA he had no plans to evacuate his wife, two sons and three daughters because of the developments in Lebanon. He said "the embassy was a small part of Lebanon which is being daily exposed to all sorts of shelling." He added: "We simply cannot leave."

CSO: 4802/712

'KUNA' SCORES IRANIAN POLICIES, SEIZED SHIP INCIDENT

LD101306 Kuwait KUNA in English 1028 GMT 10 May 81

[From the Press Review]

[Text] Kuwait, 10 May (KUNA)--AR-RA'Y AL-'ANN on the Kuwaiti ship seized by the Iranians:

"It seems that Iran has failed to provide a well-woven pretext for seizing the Kuwaiti survey ship and found itself compelled to release it after trying to exploit the incident to raise Kuwait's fears and to continue its attacks on this country.

"The outstanding facts have not helped Iran to create pretexts for seizing the survey ship because the latter was in Kuwait's territorial waters as was proved.

"The Iranian stand towards the detained ship indicates the extent of confusion the Iranian authorities are living in and their inability to behave and deal with others. This has reached a point whereby Iran lost all its friends and involved itself in a war against Iraq, thus offering a great service to the American and Zionist conspiracies.

"Iran has tried to frighten Kuwait by creating the ship problem believing that Kuwait would be intimidated and would surrender, and this would be considered by Iran the first loose stand by an Arab Gulf country supporting Iraq.

"But Kuwait with full self-confidence conveyed to Iran its stand and did not concede to the Iranian conditions.

"The days of intimidation are over, and it would have been better of Iran if it had sought a way to end its war with Iraq, stopped the Muslim bloodshed and foiled the American and big powers conspiracies. Eight months of war should be enough to convince Tehran that the Iraqi army would not burge from its forward strongholds.

"Logic calls for a solution, that gives the rights back to their owners and preserves the region's stability and security which are mostly needed by Iran."

CSO: 4820/346

BRIEFS

MITTERRAND CONGRATULATED--kuwait 12 May (KUNA)--The amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, today sent French President-elect Francois Mitterrand a cable of congratulations in which he called on him to give his full attention to the problem of the Palestinian people and expressed his hope for the broadening of friendly relations between the two countries. He said: "I am confident that in your responsible position you will work for the growth and development of relations between France and the Arab world, relations rooted in history and extending to the contemporary era." He added: "We have great hopes that you will exert your utmost efforts to advance the principles of freedom, fraternity, justice and equality in relations among peoples and states." The amir of Kuwait said: "I hope that the question of the Palestinian people will receive your full attention and concern on the basis of justice, for they have suffered enough repression and destitution over scores of years. This has made their problem a major cause of instability in the Middle East region and an issue which threatens the interests of most countries of the world." The cable stressed that "the firm and friendly relations between our two peoples and our two countries built in mutual appreciation and respect will become stronger and grow further." [Text] [LD121740 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1213 GMT 12 May 81]

CSO: 4802/712

TEXT OF KADER CONFESSION DESCRIBES MOROCCAN SUPPORT FOR FAILED COUP

Nouakchott CHAAB in French 21-24 Mar 81 pp 3, 6

[Article: "Confession of the Leader of the Mercenaries"]

[Text] The statement signed by former officer Kader, the leader of the commando group, irrefutably proves that the Kingdom of Morocco was completely responsible for the commando group's act of aggression, the immediate and sorrowful result of which was the loss of innocent human lives.

"My name is Mohamed O. Bah O. Abdel Kader. I am the son of Bah O. Abdel Kader and Aicha Mint Baty and was born in 1941 in Nema Hodh Charghy. I am a former lieutenant colonel in the Mauritanian Air Force. I am married and have children (6). I have already been sentenced to death, tried by default by the special court of justice which judges us.

I left my country on 17 June 1979 with my entire family, my wife, my 6 children and my mother. I went to Morocco by way of Senegal.

When I arrived in Dakar, accompanied by Colonel Ben Mira, a Moroccan national and former liaison officer in Nouakchott, I asked the Moroccan Government for political asylum via its embassy and I asked the Senegalese authorities for protection via the head of that country's security police.

The following day Morocco gave its consent to my request via its ambassador in Mauritania, Senoussi, who came to Dakar for the occasion, and the Senegalese authorities guaranteed my protection at the hotel before my departure for Morocco by way of Banjul. My family joined me in Morocco 3 days later.

Preparations for my departure from Dakar were made entirely by friendly Moroccan authorities. Mr Guedira, special adviser to King Hassan II, and Senoussi, Morocco's former ambassador to Mauritania, were in Dakar for the occasion and His Majesty's adviser had a meeting with ex-President Senghor.

My trip to Morocco took place in comfortable circumstances and I was welcomed by a high-level Moroccan official named Ben Brahim, director of foreign relations in the Moroccan Interior Ministry.

About 5 months after I arrived in Morocco I was received by King Hassan II who welcomed me to Morocco where he said I was to consider myself at home. Ben Brahim was my official spokesman but I was working in close collaboration with Ben Sliman and Hamoudy, both of them officials in the Moroccan special services.

The Moroccan authorities set me up with my family in a villa located 15 km from Rabat with all modern comforts, cook, butler, chambermaid and two vehicles with drivers.

Regarding food and laundry, the butler had them taken care of with Moroccan officials. We had everything at our disposal.

In concert with the Moroccan authorities I decided to set up the free officers' front which was meant to constitute the opposition to the Mauritanian military regime installed in June 1979, and I made a statement to the international press about this on the day the Mauritanian prime minister, Lieutenant Colonel Haidalla at the time, visited Morocco.

Everything had been set up for Moroccan radio and television as well as for news agencies to broadcast the statement at the time of Lieutenant Colonel Haidalla's audience with King Hassan II.

In collaboration with the Moroccan special services official I did recruiting from Dakar and had ten officer candidates and NCO's who either had been discharged by the Mauritanian Army or were in deserter status, including Lt Col Ahmed Salem O. Sidi, sent to Rabat.

I asked Sidi to do some recruiting while he was passing through Dakar during the El Id holiday.

He recruited and sent four individuals, three of them civilians. All of these persons put together, including Col Ahmed Salem O. Sidi and myself, make up the Free Officers.

After our three months of training, which was run by specialist Moroccan officers, we were taken from Rabat to Dakar where Ben Sliman and Hamoudy received and transported the three groups to Saint Louis du Senegal where Haba was tasked by the Moroccans and myself with taking all of them to his camp where the weapons, ammunition and gear were that had been stored by Ben Sliman. Haba was in charge of getting vehicles ready on the Mauritanian bank of the Senegal River. Let me make it clear as well that all the teams had made the trip from Rabat to Paris to Dakar and that I myself arrived in Dakar via Geneva on about 26 February 1981 with my Moroccan passport in the name of Kamel Moustapha. The other units joined me from 12 to 14 March and had Moroccan passports.

I do not know the names of all the individuals on their Moroccan passports, but I can tell you that Lt Col Ahmed Salem O. Sidi's identity was the Moroccan name of Touhani Ahmed and ex-Lt Niang Moustapha's name on his Moroccan passport was Selmane Abdallah. I do not remember the names of the others on their Moroccan passports.

About 3 months ago with the help of the Moroccan authorities I brought the members of the commando group together in a Ben Guerir military barracks at the training center located 40 km from Marrakesh. The training course was under the supervision of Ben Sliman and run by Captain Chergaoui, Lieutenant Ahmed, Lieutenant Allal, Officer Candidate Abderrahim, and Sergeants Tayibi and Robio.

Lieutenant Colonel Salem was in charge of discipline and maintaining the men's morale.

The day before the Committee meeting I was to be in Senegal with Ben Sliman before the arrival of the commandos in order to welcome them and take delivery of the equipment and weapons.

The commando group, reduced by three individuals, two of whom got out at the last minute due to illness and the third turned back by the French police, reached the first assembly point at Haba's camp 156 km southwest of Richard Toll on 15 March 1981 during the day, the place agreed on with our Moroccan friends.

At 2200 that same day we loaded the cases containing the weapons, ammunition, and military clothing as well as stores of water and fuel obtained by Ben Sliman from the Moroccan special services.

We crossed the river during the night and said goodbye to Haba who found as a Senegalese boatman and introduced his driver and his brother's driver who were to drive us close to Nouakchott passing through R'Kiz and Boutilimit and taking the tarred road up to Nouakchott.

We reached a point 15 km from Nouakchott at 0600 where we left the tarred road to get to the southern part of the Military Engineer Corps area. We made a stop there for about four hours to have some tea, clean our weapons, and give last-minute instructions for our mission.

Let me make it clear that the orders and specific instructions for the commando mission were decided on by me in close collaboration with Moroccan authorities represented by Ben Sliman from special services, his deputy, Hamoudy, and the director of foreign relations in the Interior Ministry, Ben Brahim.

Our three groups crossed Senegal in civilian clothes.

Ex-Col Ahmed Salem O. Sidi who was assisting me did not know the details of the operation ("D" Day), the schedule, etc. until after our arrival at Haba's camp.

Ahmed Salem O. Sidi knew that I was in command of this mission and that he was my deputy and that we were to overthrow the government at the time of the Military Committee for National Salvation's [CMSN's] meeting, which was meant to take place during the first two weeks of March.

If the meeting was not held we were to move in to the Presidential Palace to arrest Colonel Haidalla, the president, and Prime Minister Bneijara to take them hostage and bargain with the other military leaders in order to win them over to our side.

The other details of the mission of each group leader were communicated by me to the individuals enroute.

Ahmed Salem O. Sidi and his group were to arrest the prime minister and his cabinet and bring them into the CMSN's meeting room. I and my group were to make our way in first to take the meeting room by storm and arrest the president, Lieutenant Colonel Haidalla.

In the normal course of events the other members of the committee should have done what we asked because they would not lose anything by so doing.

I was actually carrying on my person the following documents:

1) The list of the new 36-member Provisional Committee of Public Safety from which the majority of individuals from 10 July 1978 who do not have the same program as ours are excluded.

2) Black list Number 1 of highly suspect officers

3) Black list Number 2 of suspect civilians, and another initial statement for radio broadcast to be read by Lt Col Ahmed Salem O. Sidi on Radio Mauritania.

Since our plans were thwarted and we were not able to arrest the president and prime minister, we got into a muddle and after putting up resistance to no avail we were attacked and apprehended.

It was understood that we were to convey to our Moroccan friends what our military and other needs were as soon as the first communique was broadcast after the successful bid for power.

Support for us was guaranteed since it was the Moroccan authorities who trained us, maintained us, and led our activity up to the first assembly point the day before the operation. That is all I have to tell you."

The accused.

The Judiciary Police officer.

9631

CSO: 4400/1116

SULTANATE OF OMAN

PROPOSED WATER PROJECTS DISCUSSED

Muscat 'UMAN in Arabic 11 Apr 81 p 1

[Report on interview with Mr Hasan Awad, general director of water resources in the Ministry of Electricity and Water: "We are installing water pipe system in 8 new district cities; the Ministry of Electricity and Water has completed the study of pipe installation projects which are expected to be completed during the second expansion plan"]

[Text] In an interview with UMAN's reporter, Mr Hasan Awad, the general director of water resources in the Ministry of Electricity and Water, stated that the ministry is exerting its utmost efforts to provide drinking water to citizens in cities and villages. That would be accomplished by digging wells and setting up water treatment plants for the coastal regions. Water pipe systems would be installed in eight new cities during this plan.

The necessary appropriations have been earmarked for the projects mentioned above. These projects are expected to be carried out in the following provinces: 'Ibri al-Qurayyat, Bahlah, Sama'il, Sanaw, al-Rustaq and al-Masna'ab. Work will soon start on laying the water system in Nazwa, Sahar, and al-Buraymi.

Mr Awad added that the Ministry of Land and Municipality Affairs is coordinating and cooperating with his ministry by supplying maps of the planned cities to enable his ministry to install the water system as soon as possible.

In the region of al-Shab and Tayash another project is in the process of being carried out to provide the citizens with drinking water. In addition, the ministry intends to dig several wells in different parts of the Sultanate.

In order to provide water for the region around the Capitol, the ministry is building a desalination plant in al-Ghabrah at a cost of 10 million rials. The estimated output of this plant will be approximately 6 million gallons per day of distilled water. Construction on this plant is expected to end around the middle of summer 1982. This plant will operate along with the old plant in al-Ghabrah which has an approximate output of 5 million gallons. In addition to that, there are many wells in Muscat producing about 9 million gallons daily of drinking water. These wells are usually used during the maintenance period which takes place once a year at the al-Ghabrah plant and lasts 40 days. Some wells were recently discovered in 'Adi valley. Their output is approximately 6 million gallons daily. Several reservoirs, which have a capacity of 20 million gallons, supply most of Muscat's requirements.

Other reservoirs will be built in regions where there is a density of population. The daily consumption of water in the region of Musqat is estimated at more than 15 million gallons.

Mr Awad added that the employees in the Department of Water are constantly connecting new houses to the water system. During last January and February, 515 homes were hooked up. The ministry has also bought 26 water carriers which were distributed in the remote regions on the Arabian Sea such as Jaddat al-Harasis, (Ramlet al-Wahiba) and regions of al-Daqam, Mahout and Ras al-Had.

In addition the ministry is presently consulting with the General Board of Water which studies underground water. The ministry, before starting any project, asks the Board mentioned above to study the region where the project is going to take place, and report on the quality and quantity of available water.

Mr Awad ended the interview by saying: The rain that God blessed us with increased the water level. It also lightened the heavy burden on the ministry and the citizens.

9786

CSO: 4802/647

OIL MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON OIL, FOREIGN POLICY

Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AHM in Arabic 21 Mar 81 p 18

[Interview with Dr Maneh Sa'id al-'Utayba, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, by AL-RA'Y AL-'AHM: "The Council for Cooperation is Not a Military Pact But an Embodiment of an Existing Reality; Iraq Will Be Welcomed as a Member of the Council in Order To Achieve Greater Cooperation; We Will Not Permit an Oil Glut on the Market. Strategic Storage of Oil Should Be in the Oil Fields Themselves"; in Amman; date not given]

[Text] Last week Dr Maneh Sa'id al-'Utayba, the petroleum and mineral resources minister of the UAE, visited Jordan leading a delegation which included several officials. Among the members of the delegation was Lieutenant General Awad al-Khalidi, military adviser to His Eminence, al-Shayk Zayid.

During their visit Dr al-'Utayba and his delegation met with His Eminence Prince Hanan, successor to the Jordanian throne, Mr Mudhir Badran, the prime minister and al-Sharif Zayd Bin Shaker, the Chief of the Jordanian army. Their lengthy conversation covered numerous subjects. Dr al-'Utayba also carried a letter from His Eminence al-Shayk Zayid to the Jordanian monarch.

In Amman, AL-RA'Y AL-'AHM met with Dr al-'Utayba and had the following conversation:

[Question] To what extent has the war in the Gulf affected the relationships between the OPEC countries, and what is your assessment of the OPEC situation after the events in the Gulf?

[Answer] A war, such as the one existing between a sister country and a neighbor serves only the common enemy. With the economic and material destruction, and the delay in development projects, the Iran-Iran war is making the enemy happy. The war had brought negative effects on the Gulf area in general, and on OPEC in particular, because Iraq and Iran were among the principal founders of OPEC. Their involvement in an armed struggle had negatively and directly affected the organization. But the organization will not break up. In fact, the situation might give OPEC the opportunity to solve problems which might arise among its members including Iraq and Iran. Thus, we might conclude that the negative effects exist, but the organization will survive them. Presently, OPEC is discharging its duties. We hope that the war will end before our next meeting of ministers in Geneva next May.

[Question] You have linked oil supply to foreign countries with their policies regarding the Palestinian problem (as with Japan). Do you intend to communicate your policy in this regard to the European countries or others?

[Answer] As soldiers of the Arab Nation, we are concerned with the Palestinian problem, the acknowledgment of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, and the withdrawal of Israel from all the occupied territories. We are ready to use our international connection in persuading the world community to recognize the PLO and deal with it as it deals with Israel.

Our position is not new. We have presented it to all the officials in friendly western countries that we have visited, and we shall continue to do so.

[Question] Could you elaborate on that?

[Answer] We believe that the western countries should recognize the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people, and should give it the same status given to Israel. For example, they should grant its offices diplomatic status, and establish contact with them. This should be adopted because the PLO is best able to discuss the Palestinian problem. No matter how well we understand that problem, we will never attain the same degree of comprehension and ability to present the issue as the Palestinians themselves.

We have already talked to our friends in West Germany, France, and Britain, in addition to Japan, about the necessity of recognizing the PLO and granting it diplomatic status.

We will use the same approach with our friends in the U.S. and the new administration there. We hope that our talks will be as fruitful as they were in Japan.

We Do Not Believe in a Military Pact

[Question] Is the Council for Cooperation of the Gulf considered one of the Arab military pacts, and what do you think of its importance?

[Answer] The UAE jointly and separately do not believe in either military pacts or in an isolationist-policy. Based on this philosophy, and the existing situation in the Gulf states, the UAE supported the Council. The Council will not bring any changes. It will only coordinate contact among the Gulf states which have already had this kind of cooperation for many years. With the recent international development, the Gulf states ought to have more realistic policies. This could be accomplished not by isolating themselves from the Arab ranks, but by cooperating closely with the Arab countries as had happened at both the Baghdad and Amman Summits.

Council for Cooperation

[Question] After the Council for Cooperation had been formed, and since Iraq is considered a Gulf state, have there been any positive moves to urge Iraq to join the Council?

[Answer] As I mentioned before, what had taken place was simply the result of an existing reality and nothing else. As for Iraq, no one can deny its being a Gulf state. Iraq can become a member of the Gulf Council. The new organization is not excluding Iraq, and nothing will prevent that country from coordinating its relations with the other Gulf states if it thinks that cooperation should occur in the near future.

The Oil Glut

[Question] What is the danger of an increase in the oil reserves in industrial countries? Will any measures be taken to decrease production in the oil exporting countries?

[Answer] The creation of a large oil reserve in the main industrial countries is considered an unfriendly action toward exporting countries and toward OPEC. We have condemned this strategy which aims at hindering our decisions concerning oil production or oil pricing. But we are not against reasonable reserves which are used in emergencies.

[Question] In your opinion, what is the amount of oil reserves in the large industrial countries?

[Answer] Last fall the reserve was 5 billion barrels. Some of it (20-25 percent) was used after the Iraq-Iran war and during winter. In our opinion, as I stated earlier, the best strategic oil reservoirs are the oil fields. Any amount that is not needed on the market could stay in the oil fields, otherwise the friendly relations between the producing and main consuming countries would be affected. Besides, storing is a very difficult and costly task. The industrial countries spend billions of dollars in the process, not to mention the loss of a large percentage of oil through evaporation and leakage.

[Question] What is the reaction of the oil producing countries to this policy?

[Answer] We have an obligation to keep a balance on the international market. We honored this obligation in the past and we shall honor it in the future. We will not permit a glut in the oil market and at the same time we will not permit a paralyzing cutback in oil supplies. We have accepted that obligation and through it we have established our position. We hope the industrial countries and the whole world will appreciate this role and encourage us to continue this path. In case of a glut, we will reduce production by a percentage that will offset the increase. The amount withheld will be saved until it is needed by both industrial and developing countries. We will not let a great amount of oil be thrown onto the market, for that would negatively affect it.

[Question] Shipping oil in western tankers and refining it in the West affects the decisions of the Arabic producing countries in oil matters, a situation for which those countries have been faulted. What is your comment on that?

[Answer] This is true and we have to correct the situation for strategic and nationalistic reasons. We have to think about a long term strategy. We have to have all our oil carried in our tankers, and we have to have our oil processed at home whether in refineries or in factories where oil is used in hundreds of thousands of petrochemical industries. This is our objective, and in order to obtain it we have to get ourselves on the right track. For example, we have suggested to the producing countries that 50 percent of their oil should be refined at home. This is only a first step. Once this step is accomplished, we should continue our work toward another goal.

At the present time, we are very far from that goal. Most of the major producing countries refine between 1 to 5 percent of their production and that is a very low percentage. We, in the UAE, are hoping to be able to refine 25 to 35 percent of our oil production by 1985.

[Question] How about shipping?

[Answer] Whatever applies to refining applies to shipping, for most of the oil is shipped on tankers belonging to non-producing countries.

The Price of Oil

[Question] What is the effect of oil price increases on the consuming Arab countries? Are there any contingency plans, such as a compensation fund to prevent financial burdens due to oil price increases?

[Answer] The consuming countries and the non-producing Arab countries are effected by any increase on oil prices as we are affected by any increase on the price of imported industrial goods and technology. We should not make the mistake of separating the price of oil from the price of other imported goods and services.

When faced with a decision concerning an oil price increase we would remain committed to a conservative position and ask for the minimum increase. This is the UAE position. We have always announced it and talked about it basing our argument on the fact that the developing countries, including the non-producing Arab countries, are more effected by any price increase than the industrial countries.

The problem of the non-producing Arab countries should be tackled by the entire Arab community.

In 1975 when I was in Algeria with His Excellency al-Shayk Zayid, the president of our country, we suggested that the non-producing Arab countries should be compensated for each oil price increase. The money was to be deposited in the Arab Development Fund and then distributed to the consuming Arab countries according to their oil imports and their actual needs. This policy worked for a year but was not renewed. In any event, this issue should be considered by all Arab countries and should not be linked to the price of international oil and the international oil market, otherwise, we will not be able to lighten the burdens of the consuming Arab countries. The subject in question should be discussed at the second Arab economic summit when it convenes.

OPEC Meetings

[Question] When is the next meeting to deal with OPEC's situation?

[Answer] The next meeting on the ministerial level will take place in Geneva next May, but the meetings on the experts level are taking place regularly.

Relationships Between Jordan and the UAE

[Question] What about the relationships between the UAE and Jordan, the result of discussions which took place with Jordanian officials, and the possibility of broadening the level of cooperation?

[Answer] Thanks to His Majesty King Husayn and His Eminence al-Shayk Zayid, ties between Jordan and UAE is an example of a brotherly relationship which should exist among all Arab countries. Such relationships between the two countries are not recent, but have existed for many years and should be considered as a model for other Arab countries. As for the discussions we have held during my visit to Amman, I can tell you that they were fruitful. We openly exchanged opinions about political and economic matters concerning our two countries and the Arab world. Our Jordanian brothers showed a genuine understanding of my opinions which are also the opinions of the UAE. We both want to increase the opportunity for cooperation between our two countries, truth searching, and the objective treatment of issues without excitement and emotionalism.

I was touched by that attitude and I will always keep Jordan, its King and people in my highest esteem.

9786

CSO: 4802/647

MINISTER DISCUSSES AGRICULTURAL STRATEGY

Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 2 May 81 p 2

[Article: "Emirates Implement Agricultural Policy for the Future After Oil; FAO Studies Moving Regional Office to the Emirates"]

[Text] His Excellency Sa'id al-Raqbani, minister of agriculture and fisheries, declared in a speech before the regional conference of the Food and Agricultural Organization, that the government of the Emirates has begun to implement a pilot agricultural policy, under the guidance of His Highness, President Shaykh Zayid Ibn Sultan Al Nuhayan, to achieve a greater capacity for food security, and to bolster self-sufficiency for the national economy, for a society after oil.

He indicated that the Government of the Emirates has and will participate on the Arab, regional and international levels, in every effort aimed at coordination and integration, whether by means of financing or by sharing in investments, since our annual share in the field of foreign assistance has reached 18 percent of the national income, for the purpose of strengthening self-capabilities for developing nations in the field of food security and world harmony.

The conference met in Rome from 21 to 24 April. On this occasion, a meeting was held involving the director general of the FAO and the ministers of agriculture from the UAE, Iraq, Syria, the Libyan Jamahiriyyah and Jordan. During this meeting, the subject of moving the regional office for the Middle East was discussed. Rome was adopted as its temporary headquarters after leaving Alexandria, Egypt. This subject was broached to the conference, which asked the FAO's director general, Edward Suma, to include it on the agenda for the 21st session of the FAO's general conference, to be held in November of this year, by virtue of the fact that moving the office is not within the jurisdiction of the regional conference. It was learned from informed sources in the conference that the UAE is the strongest candidate for the shift of the regional office, on condition that it approves this candidacy.

The conference decided to form a ministerial committee, chaired by Sa'id al-Raqbani, UAE minister of agriculture and fisheries. Its membership includes the ministers of agriculture in a number of the region's nations. It will visit the wealthy nations in the region, to ask them to renew their pledges and commitments to support the growth agricultural projects, which the FAO is implementing on the national and regional levels, and to increase these commitments, because of the appropriateness and importance of these projects. The conference welcomed the invitation, which Sa'id al-Raqbani renewed, for the UAE to host the 16th regional conference, whose date of convening will be determined in consultations between the UAE government and the director general of the FAO.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

PROTECTIVE MEASURES TO BE DISCUSSED FOR TRADE AGENCIES

Dubai AL-BAYAN in Arabic 4 May 81 p 2

[Article: "Measures to Protect the Local Agent in Abu Dhabi; 558 New Firms in 1980"]

[Text] The National Advisory Council, in today's session, chaired by Shaykh Sultan al-Zahiri, the council's chairman, will discuss the report of the Finance and Economic Committee, concerning measures for commercial licenses.

The council will review a letter from the Executive Council concerning measures relative to providing full protection for the local agent in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, and not permitting competition by other trade agencies in other areas.

The council will also review a report about the role of the Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry in encouraging economic conditions, and its accomplishments in this field.

The report stated that the number of new national firms, registered with the chamber last year, 1980, totaled 558, including 441 companies wholly-owned by citizens, and 117, in which the national capital's share was 51 percent. It notes, in comparing these figures with similar ones of 1978, that the number of new national firms has risen 27 percent.

The report explains that the number of new foreign firms, registered with the chamber in 1979, was 503, and in 1980, this number was 410, i.e., the number of foreign firms rose last year by 57 percent over what the number had been in 1978.

Relative to the number of active "national firm" members in the chamber, last year it totaled 2845, an increase of 24 percent over 1979, whereas the number of affiliated members and foreign firms last year was 2405, an increase of 20 percent over 1979.

The report concluded that this increase in the number of active chamber members, including the affiliated members, reflects a slight improvement in trade activity in the Emirate.

7005

CSO: 4802/697

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

PROJECTS FOR EASTERN PROVINCE CITED

Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 2 May 81 p 2

[Article by Ahmad Majdub: "New Projects for the Eastern Province to Cost 77.5 Million Dirhams"]

[Text] The engineer for the Eastern Province in the Ministry of Works, 'Abd al-Wahed Fikri, stated that the ministry will implement 18 projects at a cost of 77,500,000 dirhams.

* New expansion of al-Fujayrah hospital, costing 1,700,000 dirhams. New equipment has also been installed in the hospital's operating room, at a cost of 564,000 dirhams.

* The al-Qubah primary school in Diba, with a capacity of 12 classrooms, at a cost of 1,400,000 dirhams.

* The Hutayn school for boys in Khur Fakan, the al-Ghurfa school for girls in al-Fujayrah, the al-Khuyar school for boys in Kalba, and the al-Sadrah school for girls in Kalba, each having 24 classrooms, at a cost of 26 million dirhams. They will be ready for the beginning of the next school year.

* A preparatory school for girls in al-Fujayrah, a second in Kalba, and a third in Khur Fakan, and a preparatory school for boys in Khur Fakan, each having 24 classrooms, costing 27 million dirhams. They will be ready for the 1982-83 school year.

* A school for boys in Diba with 24 classrooms, costing 7 million dirhams. The contractor has begun work.

* A 100 unit student housing project in al-Fujayrah, costing 1 million dirhams.

* A cultural center in al-Fujayrah, costing 5 million dirhams. It will be ready 4 months from now.

* Construction of 13 government housing units in Wadi Mas, costing 1,350,000 dirhams.

* Construction of 20 government housing units in Marbad, costing 2 million dirhams. They have been delivered.

* Construction of 35 government housing units in al-Rawl in Diba, costing 2,400,000 dirhams.

He stated that work was well underway in all these places. The ministry has mobilized all its resources to complete these projects by their appointed dates.

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